



DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

2320 South DuPont Highway, Dover, DE 19901

To: Newsroom Directors and Assignment Editors

For Immediate Release:
December 22, 2005

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Number of Pages: 2

Attention pet owners: PET FOOD RECALL

Teresa Crenshaw, Administrator of the DDA Agriculture Compliance Section, has been notified that Diamond Pet Products has issued an immediate recall of pet food manufactured in their Gaston, South Carolina facility due to aflatoxin contamination. Aflatoxin is a naturally occurring toxic chemical by-product from the growth of the fungus *Aspergillus flavus*, on corn and other crops. Pets that have consumed products contaminated with aflatoxin may suffer severe illness and/or death. Diamond Pet Food has issued the following statement regarding the recall:

Media Statement Diamond Pet Food

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 20, 2005

Media Contact:
Mark Brinkman, Diamond Pet Food
573/229-4203

Diamond Pet Food has discovered aflatoxin in a product manufactured at our facility in Gaston, South Carolina. Aflatoxin is a naturally occurring toxic chemical by-product from the growth of the fungus *Aspergillus flavus*, on corn and other crops.

Out of an abundance of caution, we have notified our distributors and recommended they hold the sale of all Diamond Pet Food products formulated with corn that were produced out of our Gaston facility (see complete list below). Please note that products manufactured at our facilities in Meta, Missouri and Lathrop, California are not affected. The Gaston facility date codes are unique from other Diamond facility codes in that either the eleventh or twelfth character in the date code will be a capital "G" (in reference to Gaston). The range of date codes being reviewed are "Best By 01-March-07" through Best By "11-June-07". Diamond's quantitative analysis records substantiate that Diamond's corn shipments were definitively clear of aflatoxin after December 10. As such, "Best By 11-June-07" date codes or later are not affected by this notice.

States serviced by our Gaston facility include Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky (eastern), Main, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New

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York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, West Virginia, Vermont, and Virginia.

We are rapidly analyzing retained samples of all products produced in Gaston so we can isolate specific lot numbers impacted and provide this information to our distributors, retailers and customers as quickly as possible.

Meanwhile, if your pet is showing any symptoms of illness, including sluggishness or lethargy combined with a reluctance to eat, yellowish tint to the eyes and/or gums, and severe or bloody diarrhea, please consult your veterinarian immediately.

Product quality and customer satisfaction are important to us. We pledge to keep you updated as new developments occur.

Gaston Facility Products Removed From Sale	
Diamond Low Fat Dog Food	Professional Chicken & Rice Senior Dog Food
Diamond Hi-Energy Dog Food	Professional Reduced Fat Chicken & Rice Dog Food
Diamond Maintenance Dog Food	Professional Adult Dog Food
Diamond Performance Dog Food	Professional Large-Breed Puppy Food
Diamond Premium Adult Dog Food	Professional Puppy Food
Diamond Puppy Food	Professional Reduced Fat Cat Food
Diamond Maintenance Cat Food	Professional Adult Cat Food
Diamond Professional Cat Food	
Country Value Puppy]	
Country Value Adult Dog	
Country Value High Energy Dog	
Country Value Adult Cat Food	

For more information please see the following link;

<http://www.diamondpetfood.com/>

For more information please contact Teresa Crenshaw, Agricultural Compliance Administrator:

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